

31 January 2002 Application No.:09/773,944 Docket: 1019-US

In the Specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:



- Moreover, preferably, to avoid backlash problems in the mechanical system, the optical component is not plastically deformed beyond the desired position with respect to a previous rest position. Also, in the preferred embodiment, to track whether or not the alignment process is converging, an active alignment signal is monitored during the deformation process. If the level of this active alignment signal falls substantially below a level of the peak active alignment signal, which was determined during the desired position search, as the optical component is moved through the desired position during the process of deformation, the new desired position is determined relative to a new rest position and the alignment process is restarted. --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:



--Fig. 1A shows a semiconductor laser system, which is used herein to illustrate an application of the present invention.—

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:



--In order to improve the alignment, the force vector 312 is exerted by the jaws 210 and 212 on the mounting structure 104 to improve the alignment between the endface 107 and the chip emission 310.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:



--Therefore, a second plastic deformation step is performed is illustrated in Fig. 4 where the current yield force of the structure is again exceeded. Force vector 314 is applied and the fiber endface 107 moves from the new rest position p5 through position p6 showing proper alignment to point p7. Then, when the jaws of the alignment system